

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-02 H-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 INT-05

FEA-01 /091 W

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R 181053Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 268

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EMIN, IR, CI

SUBJ: VISIT OF CHILEAN MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COORDINATION TO IRAN

REF: A. SANTIAGO 935 B. TEHRAN 1248 C. KHORRAMSHahr A-1

1. EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO LEARN FROM SEVERAL IRANIAN SOURCES WHETHER CHILEAN MINISTER'S VISIT RESULTED IN LIKELY GOI FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS WERE FRUITLESS. RAUL SAEZ UNDOUBTEDLY IS CORRECT IN CASTING HIS STOP IN TEHRAN AS UNSUCCESSFUL.

2. CHILEAN MINISTER PROBABLY ALSO IS CORRECT IN STATING THAT IRANIAN ASSISTANCE WOULD BE DEPENDENT IN SOME RESPECT ON GOC SUPPORT FOR IRAN. THE GOI HAS NOT ATTEMPTED TO DISGUISE ITS POLICY OF USING FOREIGN AID TO FURTHER ITS OWN SELF INTEREST (REFERENCE B). HOWEVER, WE SERIOUSLY DOUBT THAT IRANIANS HAVE THOUGHT OUT PLANS FOR LEADING A COPPER CARTEL. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, IRAN'S LARGE SAR CHESMEH COPPER MINE WILL NOT BE IN PRODUCTION FOR ANOTHER TWO YEARS (REF C). CONSTRUCTION OF COPPER SMELTING COMPLEX HAS NOT YET EVEN BEEN STARTED, AND COMPLETION IS AT LEAST THREE OR FOUR YEARS AWAY. COPPER EXPORT MAY BE FURTHER DELAYED BY RISING CONFIDENTIAL

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DOMESTIC DEMAND AND BY INADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

IRANIANS MAY HAVE PRESENTED IDEA TO CHILEAN MINISTER AS POSSIBLY DESIRABLE ARRANGEMENT TO BE WORKED OUT IN DISTANT FUTURE, OR THEY MAY HAVE RAISED SUBJECT SIMPLY AS A CONVENIENT PLOY FOR TURNING OFF SAEZ. TO IRAN, LATIN AMERICA IS AN AREA OF ONLY PERIPHERAL INTEREST IN WHICH THE GOI IS LEKELY TO COMMIT LITTLE IF ANY OF THE TRIMMED DOWN CAPITAL IT PLANS TO EXPORT OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS (REF B).

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Message Attributes

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